

REMARKS

After entry of the foregoing amendments, Claims 1 to 56 and 65 to 68 will remain pending. Claim 1 has been amended and claims 57 to 64 have been canceled, without prejudice to pursuit of such canceled subject matter in a continuing application.

Applicants appreciate and acknowledge the indication in the Office Action dated June 21, 2005 that the Examiner's search did not identify any prior art that would anticipate or render obvious the claimed subject matter, as all of the rejections set forth in the Office Action relate to 35 U.S.C. § 112. Without conceding their agreement with the rejections, in the interest of advancing prosecution of the applications, Applicants have amended the claims in an effort to resolve these issues. In particular, the cancellation of claims 57 to 64 renders moot the rejection of these claims under Section 112, first and second paragraphs. The amendment to Claim 1 renders moot the rejection of Claims 1 to 51 and 65 to 68 based on the recitation of prodrugs and radiolabelled forms of the claimed compounds.

Claims 65 to 68 stand rejected under Section 112, first paragraph, as allegedly lacking enablement. Applicants are not clear that this rejection was intended, as the comments in the Office Action are directed to elements recited only in claims 58 to 64. Indeed, the Office Action explicitly states that the specification enables the treatment of anxiety, which is recited in claims 65 and 66. Additionally, Applicants respectfully submit that the correlation between inhibition of CRF and the treatment of the anxiety, depression and irritable bowel syndrome is well known, as discussed, for example, in the references cited in the specification (*see* page 2, ¶ [0006]). Moreover, the specification provides guidance as to various *in vitro* and *in vivo* tests that may be done to evaluate the efficacy of the claimed compounds. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the specification provides an enabling disclosure for Claims 65 to 68, and respectfully request that the rejection of these claims be withdrawn.

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CONCLUSION

There being no remaining issues, a Notice of Allowance of all of pending Claims 1 to 56 and 65 to 68 is respectfully requested.

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